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ECNS 325.01: Economics of Sports

Douglas Dalenberg

University of Montana - Missoula, douglas.dalenberg@umontana.edu

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UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
Economics 325: Economics of Sports

Course Information:

Semester: Spring 2019
Section: Section 01
Meeting time: TR 11:00-12:20
Classroom: LA 302
Credits: 3 credits
CRN: 34449

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Douglas Dalenberg
Office: LA 413
Email: doug.dalenberg@mso.umt.edu
Phone: 406-243-4406 (message only)
Office hours: T 10:00-10:50 and 12:30-1:50, R 12:30-1:50, or by appointment.

Course Description:

This course is an applied economics course, demonstrating many tools economists use with examples and subject material pulled from the world of sports. We will review and extend the methods of analysis you learned in Principles of Microeconomics and we will apply concepts commonly encountered in applied microeconomics, econometrics, industrial organization, public finance, labor economics, and regional economics.

Prerequisites:

ECNS 201S: Principles of Microeconomics.

Required Text:

None.

Readings:

I will use Moodle to steer you to each week's reading.

Learning Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete ECNS 391 will be able to:

1. explain the evolution of sports economics as a field within economics.
2. interpret the antitrust and labor histories of professional and collegiate sports.
3. apply basic theoretical models such as supply and demand and monopsony and monopoly to real-world sports economics issues.
4. apply basic empirical economic tools to real-world sports economics issues.
5. evaluate and critique economic impact studies and the debates regarding sports facilities and mega events such as the Olympics.

Assessment:

Assignments	Percent	Date
Quizzes (Best 11 scores out of 12)	65%	Every Tuesday except 1/15, 3/26 (Spring Break), and 4/2.
Writing Assignment 1	5%	Thursday, February 7.
Writing Assignment 2	5%	Thursday, March 14.
Writing Assignment 3	10%	Thursday, April 18.
Final Exam	15%	Thursday, May 2, 8:00-10:00.

I will use plus/minus grading with 100-92=A, 91-90=A-, 89-88=B+, 87-82=B, 81-80=B-, 79-78=C+, 77-72=C, 71-70=C- 69-68=D+, 67-62=D, 61-60=D-, 59 and below=F.

Policies:

1. If you miss a quiz and you contact me prior to or immediately after the quiz, then we will make arrangements for a make-up quiz. If I am not contacted promptly, then no make-up quiz is possible. I will drop your lowest quiz score, so you may miss one quiz without doing a make-up.
2. If my office hours conflict with your schedule, see me for an appointment or try to catch me in my office by chance.
3. Whenever possible, and in accordance with civil rights laws, the University of Montana will attempt to provide reasonable modifications to students with disabilities who request and require them. Please feel free to setup a time with me to discuss any modifications that may be necessary for this course. For more information, visit the [Disability Services for Students](https://www.umt.edu/dss/) website (<https://www.umt.edu/dss/>).
4. Academic dishonesty will result in a score of zero for the work in question and possible university sanctions. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students/default.php) (<http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students/default.php>).
5. The University sets deadlines for adding classes, dropping classes, changing grade options, and changing to or from audit status. These policies can be found at the [Registrar's web page](http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/dropadd.php) (<http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/dropadd.php>) while the actual dates for this term can be found on the [Registrar's calendar](https://www.umt.edu/registrar/PDF/201930-Official-Dates-and-Deadlines.pdf) (<https://www.umt.edu/registrar/PDF/201930-Official-Dates-and-Deadlines.pdf>).
6. University policy states "For undergraduates, a CR grade (credit) will be equivalent to a D- or better and an NCR grade (no credit) will be equivalent to an F." University rules require you to earn a grade of C- or better in order for the course to satisfy the requirements of a major.
7. I do not take attendance. The consequences of missing class are reflected in quiz and exam scores. I take material for the quizzes out of lecture, so if you do miss class you will want to copy a classmate's notes.
8. As a courtesy to your classmates, please set your cell phones on vibrate rather than ring and please leave the classroom to talk on a phone. You may text during class if it does not disturb those sitting near you and it does not disturb me. Absolutely no texting or cell phone use during quizzes or exams. If you believe that you will need to leave during class, please sit where you will not bother others as you leave. A classroom is a community, so I trust you will act as a mature and responsible citizen and treat each other with respect and courtesy. Please do not interfere with the learning of your classmates. I will ask you to leave if you are interfering with others' learning and it would be very embarrassing for you.

Calendar:

This schedule of topics is subject to modification. All changes will be announced in class.

Week	Date:	Topic	Reading*	Quizzes and Papers
1	1/10	Introduction	<i>Term starts Thursday.</i>	
2	1/15 1/17	The Field of Sports Economics	Rottenberg 1956	
3	1/22 1/24	Supply and Demand	Welki and Zlatoper 1994	Quiz 1 – Tuesday
4	1/29 1/31	Leagues and Competitive Balance	Humphreys 2002	Quiz 2 – Tuesday
5	2/5 2/7	Modeling Competitive Balance	Fort and Quirk 1995	Quiz 3 – Tuesday Writing Assignment 1 due Thursday.
6	2/12 2/14	Franchise Finances	Alexander and Kern 2004	Quiz 4 – Tuesday
7	2/19 2/21	Facilities	Fort 2000	Quiz 5 – Tuesday
8	2/26 2/28	Economic Impact Analysis	Crompton 1995	Quiz 6 – Tuesday
9	3/5 3/7	Economic Impact Analysis II	Nicholls and Crompton 2007	Quiz 7 – Tuesday
10	3/12 3/14	Mega Events (Olympics, World Cup)	Baade and Matheson 2016	Quiz 8 – Tuesday Writing Assignment 2 due Thursday.
11	3/19 3/21	Antitrust	Banner 2013 excerpt	Quiz 9 – Tuesday
	3/25- 3/29	Spring Break		
12	4/2 4/4	Labor Markets	Scully 1974	
13	4/9 4/11	Labor Markets	Heyler 1974 excerpt	Quiz 10 – Tuesday
14	4/16 4/18	College Sports	Sanderson and Siegfried 2015	Quiz 11 – Tuesday Writing Assignment 3 due Thursday.
15	4/23 4/25	Current Issues	<i>To Be Announced</i>	Quiz 12 – Tuesday
16	5/2	Final Exam		Thursday, May 2, 8:00- 10:00.

* Readings will be posted on Moodle.